

TWO GOAL DEBUT BY STEVE HILL

By **STUART EARP** Wycombe Wanderers 3, Marlow 0

FORMER Slough and Woking striker Steve Hill hit two goals on his debut for Wycombe Wanderers in their friendly against neighbours Marlow on Tuesday night.

Hill, who quit Woking last week when Manager Tommy Tranter was sacked, took his chances well and looked sharp inside the penalty area. On this form he looks certain to establish himself in Wycombe's front line.

All three Wanderers goals came in the first half, including two in two minutes but after the break, Marlow's greater work-rate and effort ensured a goalless half. This has been a dismal season for the Athenian League club, but despite their problems, there seems a good spirit within the team. In the Baker brothers, Barry and Roy, they have two fine players while young Ron MacFadyen only needs encouragement to become a useful little player. Goalkeeper Neil Barber deserved praise too, for a fine performance.

As well as Hill, Wycombe gave a run out to two other newcomers. Malcolm Swain, 25, showed more enthusiasm than most of the Blues and has an accurate left foot. The former Reading and

Dulwich player certainly looks worth another trial. Robin Collins, 16, had little time to show his talents but his running off the ball impressed.

32ND GOAL

A snap shot from 10 yards gave Hill his first goal after 12 minutes when he turned well to beat Barber and Wanderers scored again two minutes later when Andy Chapman clumsily brought down Hill. Ian Pearson clipped the penalty home with ease for his 32nd goal of the season.

Before half-time Wycombe went 3-0 up with another goal from Hill, this time rapping the ball home from close range following a Pearson cross.

Marlow, who had failed to test John Maskell in the first half, worked busily after the interval. Their approach work looked good but attacks were easily broken up by the home back four whenever danger threatened. The tall Ray Palmer twice went close in

the early stages of the half, the best effort being blocked by Maskell at point blank range.

Wycombe were happy to amass a steady stream of corners but their approach work was spoilt by too many errors. Chances were still created, however, and a brilliant reaction save by Barber robbed Hill of a debut hat-trick in the 70th minute.

The closest Wanderers came to another goal was from the boot of Bob Davies, Wycombe's regular left-back this season. Bob filled in for Keith Mead at centre-back and enjoyed a fine game. His measured 30 yard drive in the 83rd minute was good enough to beat the goalkeeper but thudded against the angle of bar and upright.

WYCOMBE: J. Maskell; P. Birdseye, R. Davies, A. Phillips, J. Priestley (sub R. Collins 61 mins); P. Cruse, L. Cadogan (sub M. Hollifield 45 mins), M. Swain; I. Pearson (sub A. Horseman 57 mins), S. Hill, D. Evans (sub H. Kettleborough 45 mins).

MARLOW: N. Barber; R. Baker, D. Russell, A. Chapman, M. McKeown; J. Steer (sub S. Lawrence 45 mins); B. Baker, R. MacFadyen; D. Couper, R. Palmer, I. Barber.

Referee: M. Evans (High Wycombe).

Halftime: 3-0. **Goalscorers:** Hill 2 (12, 32), Pearson pen (14).